



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

cities. The supineness and inactivity of municipal authorities may furnish Major Darwin with argument in favor of private enterprise, and may exasperate Mr. Shaw, whose belief in the ultimate beneficencies of public activity is fused with a keenly humorous appreciation of human frailty; but neither takes into consideration the possibility of corruption in the civil service which stares in the face and appals the student of American civic life. "A man who behaves himself and does his work has nothing to fear in public employment, his income and position are permanently assured" (Shaw, p. 10), could not be written of our civil service. The question is, of course, finally one of politics, to be settled in accord with the interests of the entire community. Major Darwin presents the considerations affecting those members of the community who have; Mr. Shaw principally thinks of those who have not. Both see that many activities of an industrial character must be pursued by the community in its corporate capacity. The question is rather where to draw the line. For both, and for the American student of civic affairs, the line is clearly to be drawn so as to include an honest civil service.

S. P. BRECKINRIDGE.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

---

*Out of Work: A Study of Employment Agencies, Their Treatment of the Unemployed and Their Influence upon Homes and Business.* By FRANCES A. KELLOR. Published for the Inter-Municipal Committee on Household Research. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1904. 12mo, pp. vii + 292.

"Give a man a comfortable income and you solve for him all the questions, except perhaps the servant question." In this statement Mr. Shaw implies that there is one question well-nigh insoluble. An encouraging fact to be noticed in connection with the question which is not even answered by the possession of a comfortable income is that it is now being attacked, not only with serious realization of the need for a remedy because of the universal discomfort experienced by both mistress and maid; but with the recognition of its economic importance and of its close interdependence with other phases of the labor question. It is consequently coming to be understood that upon this problem, too, must be brought to bear expert methods of investigation and research, as well as generous desire for social amelioration.

It would be difficult to find any other relationships so uncertain

and vague in its character. It is supposed to be a relation based on contract; but the commentators on the law class it always under the law of persons, with those of husband and wife, parent and child, guardian and ward — clearly relations of *status*.

The terms of the contract are rarely formulated, and its interpretation is infrequently sought of the courts, since the nature of the service would prevent its being enforced in terms, and the pecuniary weakness of the employee makes it impossible for her to go into court and prevents her being brought in as defendant in an action for damages. The facts, too, are very difficult to obtain. Nowhere are the economies of the household more jealously guarded than in connection with the housing and treatment of the employees; and if the conditions of her life are such as to humiliate her, the maid will not willingly admit the fact to outsiders.

The investigator seems forced, then, to make use of the employment agencies in order to obtain bodies of fact great enough to promise reliable conclusions. For investigations of this character Miss Kellor is peculiarly fitted, and the result of her investigations as shown in this volume can only arouse interest and stimulate inquiry. The topics she treats on the basis of an investigation of 834 employment agencies are: business conditions and methods, responsibility for immorality and vice, office hardships, new movements, and remedies. A number of states have enacted legislation attempting to control these agencies for the purpose of protecting both employer and employee against fraud, and the employee against the temptations of criminal suggestion. It may be that out of such investigations as these undertaken by the Inter-Municipal League may come propositions for more effective control of the agencies, and intelligent, practicable schemes for legislation regulating and interpreting the labor contract itself.

S. P. B.

---

*Modern Socialism.* By R. C. K. ENSOR. London: Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons, 1904. 8vo, pp. xxxvii + 388.

This volume is in the main a compilation. The original contribution of the editor is embodied in an introduction, in which he makes a brief review of the socialist movement as it appears in various European countries at the present time. The author of the introduction disclaims any purpose to trace the history of socialism, or even to present all phases of socialistic thought. His emphasis is on *political* socialism of today. He is not concerned with the "picturesque